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Labour Market Information Monthly

National Graduates Survey[1]

More than 80% of college and university students who graduated in 2005 and did not pursue further studies had found full-time employment by 2007. In general, earnings increased by level of study. In 2007, two years after graduation, just over one-quarter of those who owed student debt at the time they graduated had paid it off.

In 2007, two years after they had graduated, a higher proportion of graduates with a master's degree were working full time than college graduates or those with a bachelor's degree or a doctorate.

The pool of graduates with a master's was higher in 2005 than it was in 2000 for both men and women. However, the employment rate among master's graduates remained stable for men at 94%, while it rose for women, from 89% in 2002 to 92% in 2007. Consequently, among graduates with a master's degree, the gap in employment rates between women and men nearly closed.

Findings also showed differences in terms of earnings from one level of education to another. The largest earnings gap existed between the bachelor's and master's levels, suggesting that investing in further postgraduate work is financially beneficial.

On the other hand, the earnings gap between a master's and doctorate suggests that the monetary gain from employment two years after graduation for doctorate students is marginal.

Among graduates in 2005 who did not pursue further education, about half financed their postsecondary education without taking on any education-related loans. Nearly one-half (46%) of all 2005 bachelor's graduates completed their studies free of debt, as did 56% of doctorates, 55% of college grads and 54% of those with a master's.

Within two years, just over one-quarter of those who had student-related debt (both government and non-government) had been able to pay it off. The highest proportion who were clear of debt were master's graduates (32%), followed by doctorate (30%), bachelor's (28%), and college graduates (24%).

[1] From Statistics Canada, The Daily, April 22, 2009

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This Month:

- *National Graduates Survey*
- *Labour Force Statistics for April 2009*

Statistics Canada
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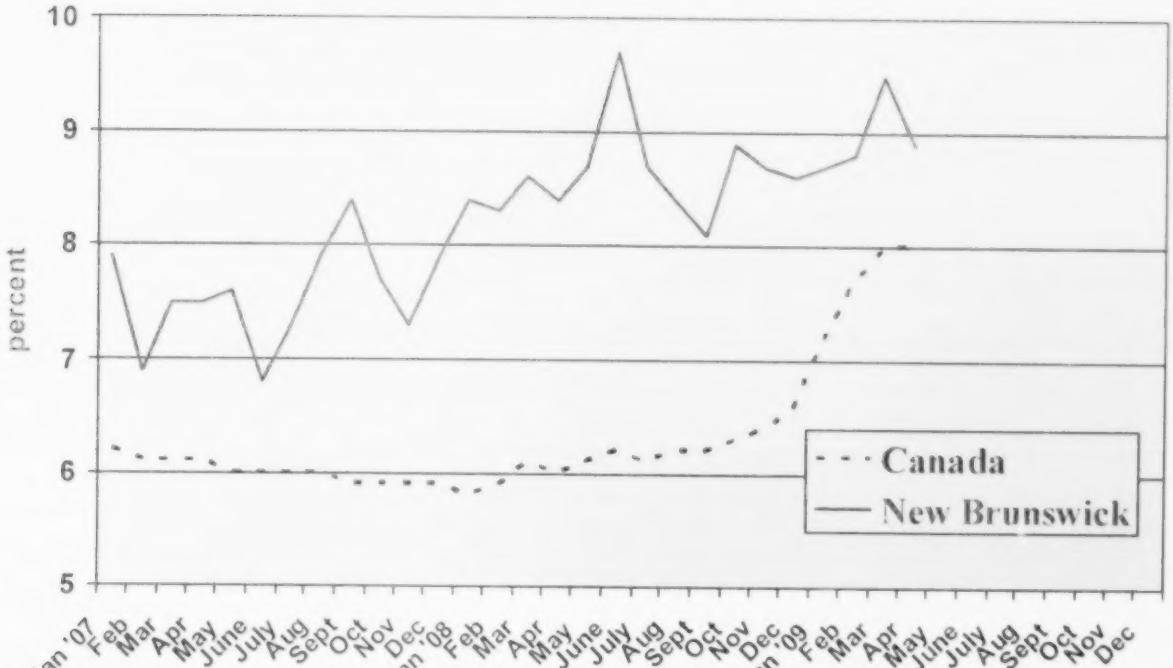
Labour Force Statistics for April 2009

Canada and the Provinces

In April, Canada's unemployment rate was 8.0%, unchanged over last month but 2.0 percentage points higher than the same time last year. New Brunswick's rate of 8.9% was 0.6 of a percentage point lower than last month but 0.5 of a percentage point higher than the same time last year, when it stood at 8.4%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
Canada and New Brunswick

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

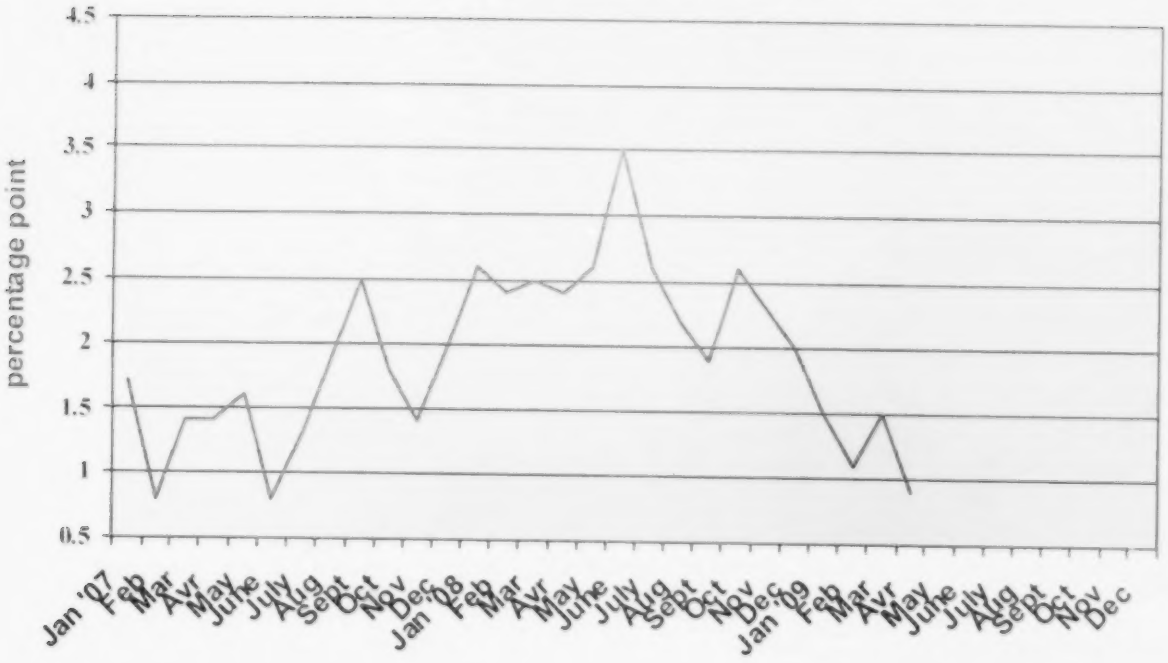


Canada and the Provinces

The gap between the national and provincial rates was 0.9 of a percentage point in April

DIFFERENCE IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
Canada and New Brunswick

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey



Statistics Canada's website has been converted to http://www.statcan.gc.ca in order to comply with Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat's Common Look and Feel Standards for the Internet. The website has a whole new look but the quality of content has not changed. Please note that you will need to update your links and bookmarks.

WWW.STATSCAN.GC.CA

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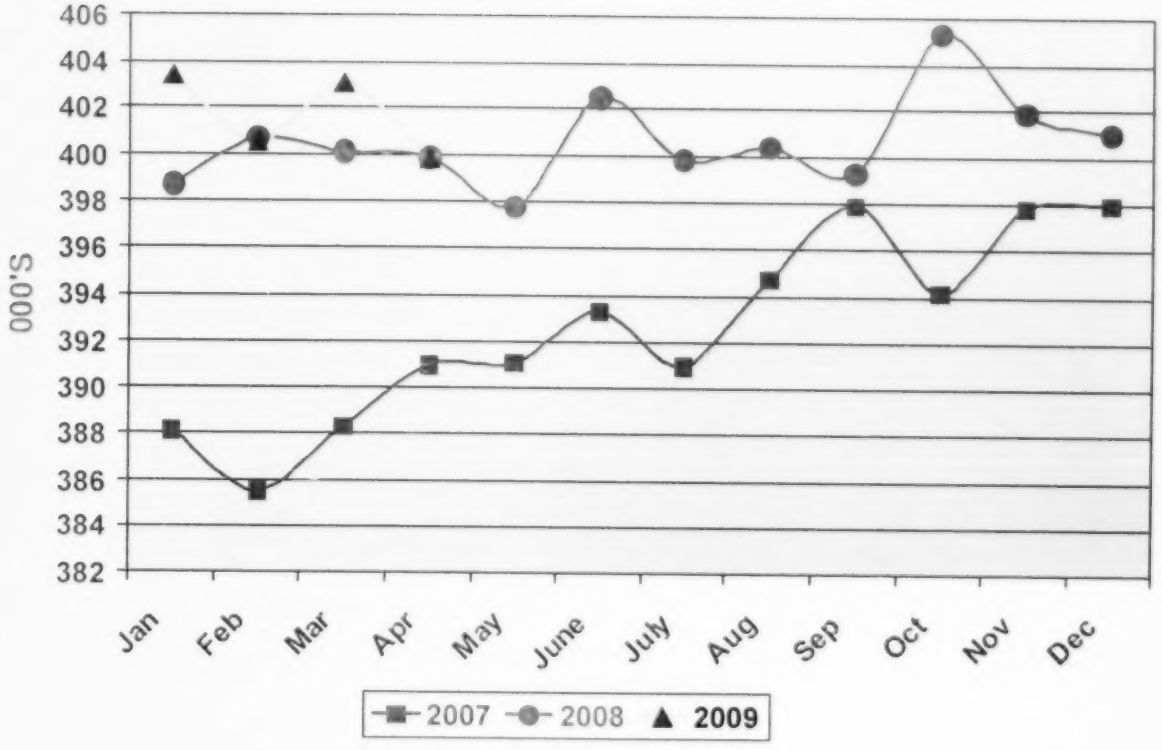
Labour Force Statistics for New Brunswick

Labour Force

New Brunswick's labour force stood at 399 900 in April. This represented a decrease of 3 200 over last month but was unchanged over the same time last year.

LABOUR FORCE
New Brunswick

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey



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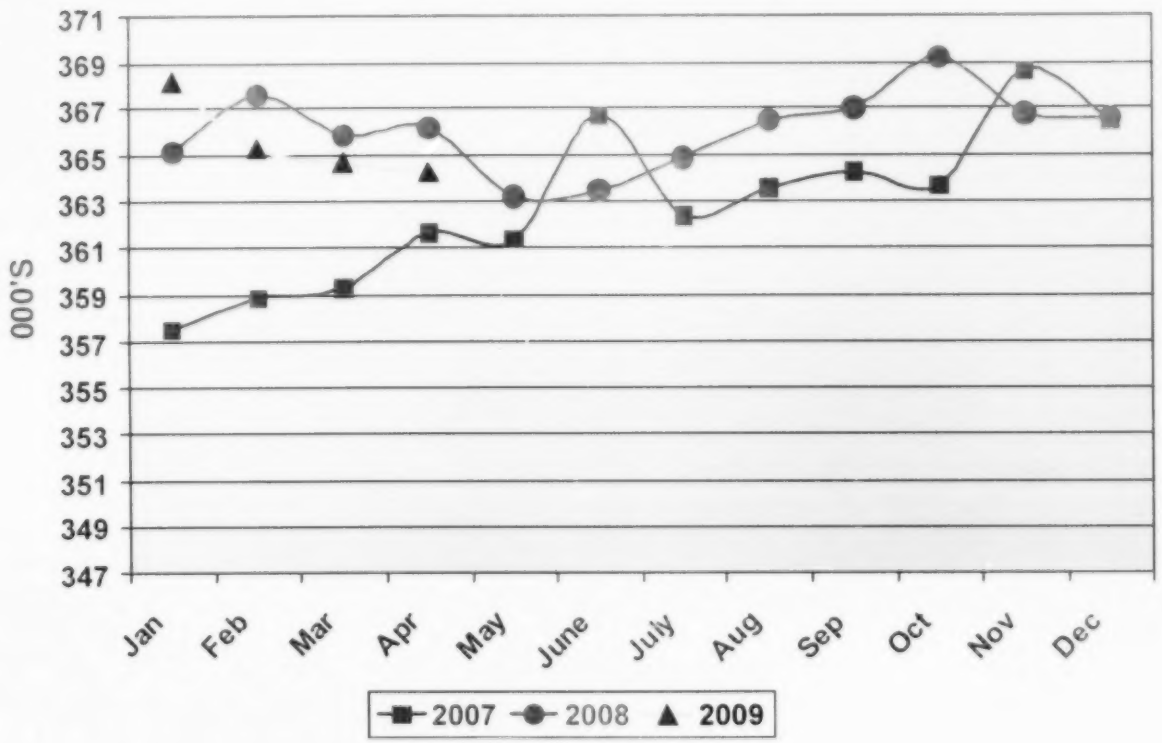
Labour Force Statistics for New Brunswick

Employment

There were 364 300 people working in April. This represented a decrease of 400 over last month and a decrease of 1 900 over the same period last year. The year-over-year employment growth was - 0.5%, compared to the national growth of - 1.5%.

EMPLOYMENT
New Brunswick

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey



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http://www.gnb.ca/0126/index-e.asp

Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour

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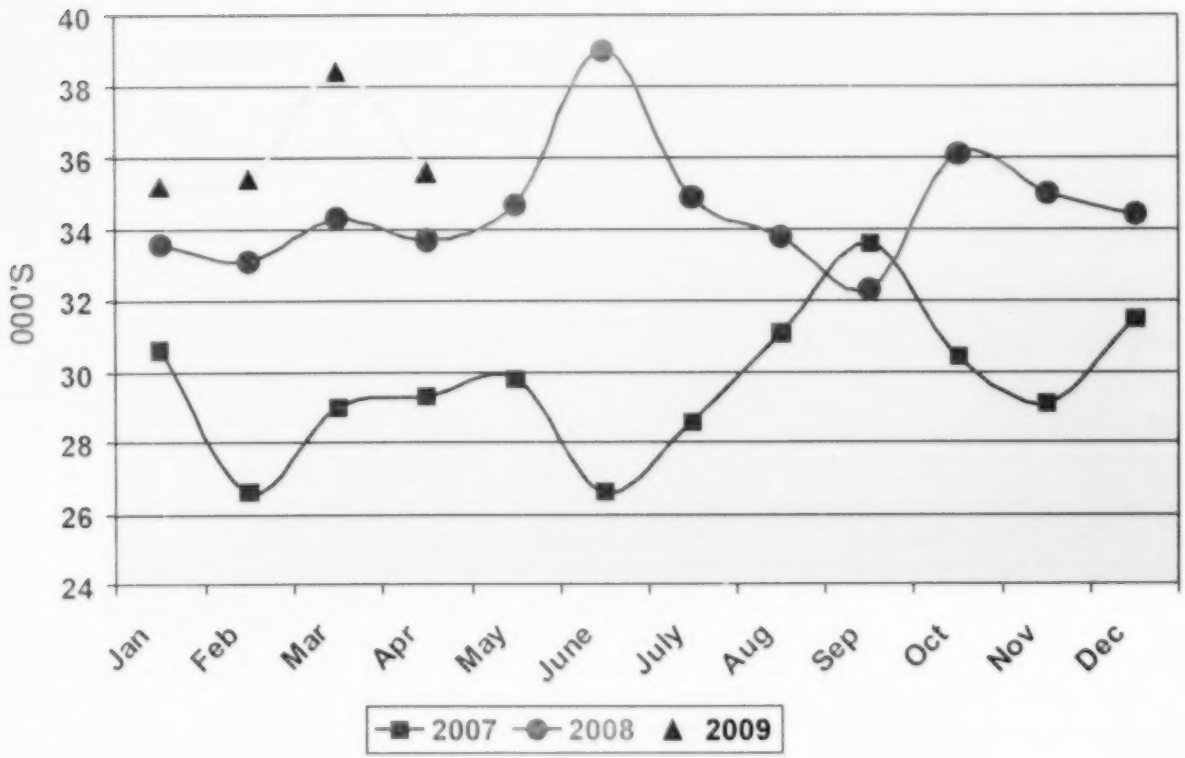
Labour Force Statistics for New Brunswick

Unemployment

There were 35 600 people unemployed and seeking work in April. This is 2 800 less people than what was recorded last month but is 1 900 more compared to the same period last year.

UNEMPLOYMENT
New Brunswick

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey



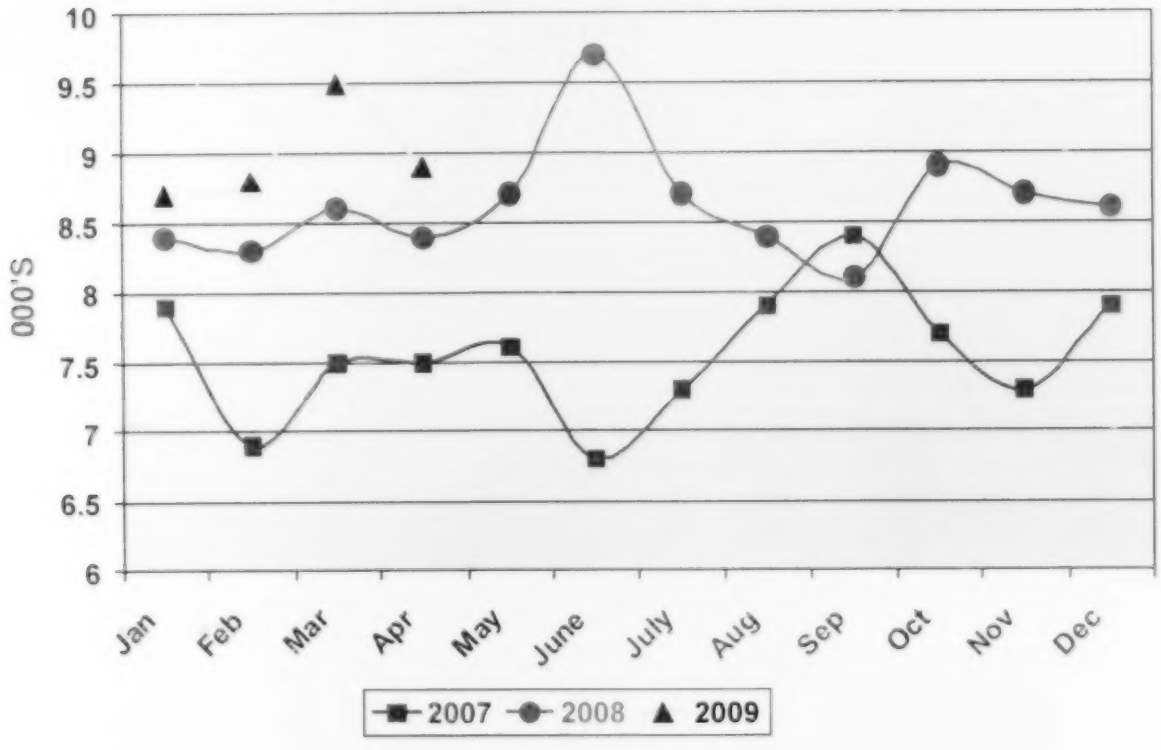
Labour Force Statistics for New Brunswick

Unemployment Rate

New Brunswick's unemployment rate of 8.9% was 0.6 of a percentage point lower than last month but was 0.5 of a percentage point higher than the same time last year.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
New Brunswick

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey



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Labour Force Statistics for New Brunswick

Regional Information

Statistics Canada reports labour force statistics for the economic regions* as three month moving averages of actual (not seasonally adjusted) data**

Labour Force Statistics for Economic Regions					
April'09	**Northeast**	**Southeast**	**Southwest**	**Central**	**Northwest**
Labour Force (000)	72.1	111.3	96.2	69.4	43.3
Employment (000)	58.7	102.2	89.7	63.0	38.2
Unemployment (000)	13.4	9.1	6.6	6.4	5.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	18.6	8.2	6.9	9.2	12.0

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

Employment by Economic Regions (000's)				
	YTD* **	**April '09**	**March '09**	**April '08**
Northeast	59.1	58.7	58.4	66.4
Southeast	103.1	102.2	101.4	98.2
Southwest	89.2	89.7	89.4	87.1
Central	64.5	63.0	64.1	65.4
Northwest	38.6	38.2	38.4	36.3

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

In April of 2009 compared to April of 2008, employment increased in the Southeast (+4 000), Southwest (+2 600), and Northwest (+1 900) regions while employment decreased in the Northeast (-7 700) and Central (-2 400) economic regions.

* The five economic regions are: Northeast (Restigouche, Gloucester and Northumberland counties), Southeast (Kent, Westmorland and Albert counties), Southwest (Kings, Saint John and Charlotte counties), Central (Queens, Sunbury and York counties), and Northwest (Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska counties).

** Regional figures cannot be directly compared with the data for the province as a whole unless that data are also reported as three month moving averages of actual data. This manipulation of the data has the effect of smoothing out monthly variations, making it easier to see longer term trends.

*** Year-to-Date

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New Brunswick Industry Analysis

Employment growth on a year-over-year basis was strongest in the following sectors *:

Agriculture (45.5%) – In April of 2009 there were approximately 8,000 people employed in this sector. This is the eighth month in a row where the monthly employment level recorded was stronger than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year over year basis in 13 of those months. Even though it is still early in the year, this sector is on pace to set a year over year employment growth record; year-to-date employment is up 28.3% from where it was at the same time last year.

Public Administration (18.2%) – In April of 2009 there were approximately 28,600 people employed in this sector (tying the record high set last month and Oct. 08). This is the twentieth month in a row where the monthly employment level recorded was stronger than the equivalent month of the previous year (the last 17 months can be considered significantly stronger). Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year over year basis in 20 of those months. This suggests that all levels of government in NB continue to have confidence in the prospects for the future of the province; however, the deteriorating fiscal position being brought on by the downturn in the global economy and recent announcements about hiring freezes, may limit growth in this sector going forward.

Business, building and other support services (15.4%) – In April of 2009 there were approximately 21,700 people employed in this sector. This is the sixth month in a row where the monthly employment level recorded was stronger than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year over year basis in only 7 of those months (with the 6 happening in the last six months). It should be noted this is the sector that comprises employment placement agencies, temporary help services agencies, collection agencies, credit bureaus, etc.

Employment was weaker on a year over year basis in the following sectors **:

Utilities (-24.0%) - In April of 2009 there were approximately 3,800 people employed in this sector. This is first month in the last 24 months that this sector has experienced a year over year decline in employment. Over the last 24 months this sector has recorded year over year employment gains 23 times. This decline may be attributed to the fact that the Canaport LNG project in Saint John and the associated LNG pipeline is entering the final stretch toward construction completion.

Information culture and recreation (-23.0%) – In April of 2009 there were approximately 10,400 people employed in this sector. This is the eleventh month in a row where the monthly employment level recorded was weaker than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year over year basis in 11 of those months (most of these came in the latter half of 2007 and the first quarter of 2008), and employment was the same on a year over year basis in 2 other months. This sector encompasses the I.C.T., for which the I.T. sector has taken some significant knocks in this economic downturn (e.g. Fatkat).

Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas (-12.5%) – In March of 2009 there were approximately 10,500 people employed in this sector. This is seventh month in a row where the monthly employment level recorded was the same or weaker than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year over year basis in 17 of those months (all in the first 17 months of this period). This new round of employment weakness may be attributed to the sudden decrease in mining activity that has been spurned by the sudden decline in world commodities prices.

Other Services (-11.8%) – In April of 2009 there were approximately 14,200 people employed in this sector. This is the twelfth month in a row where the monthly employment level recorded was weaker than the equivalent month of the previous year. Over the last 24 months, employment was stronger on a year over year basis in only 6 of those months (most in late 2007). Therefore, this sector is showing definite signs of employment weakness.

* Includes the top three sectors and all sectors that posted a 10% or greater (year over year) increase in employment.

** Includes the bottom three growth sectors and all sectors that posted a 10% or greater (year over year) decrease in employment.